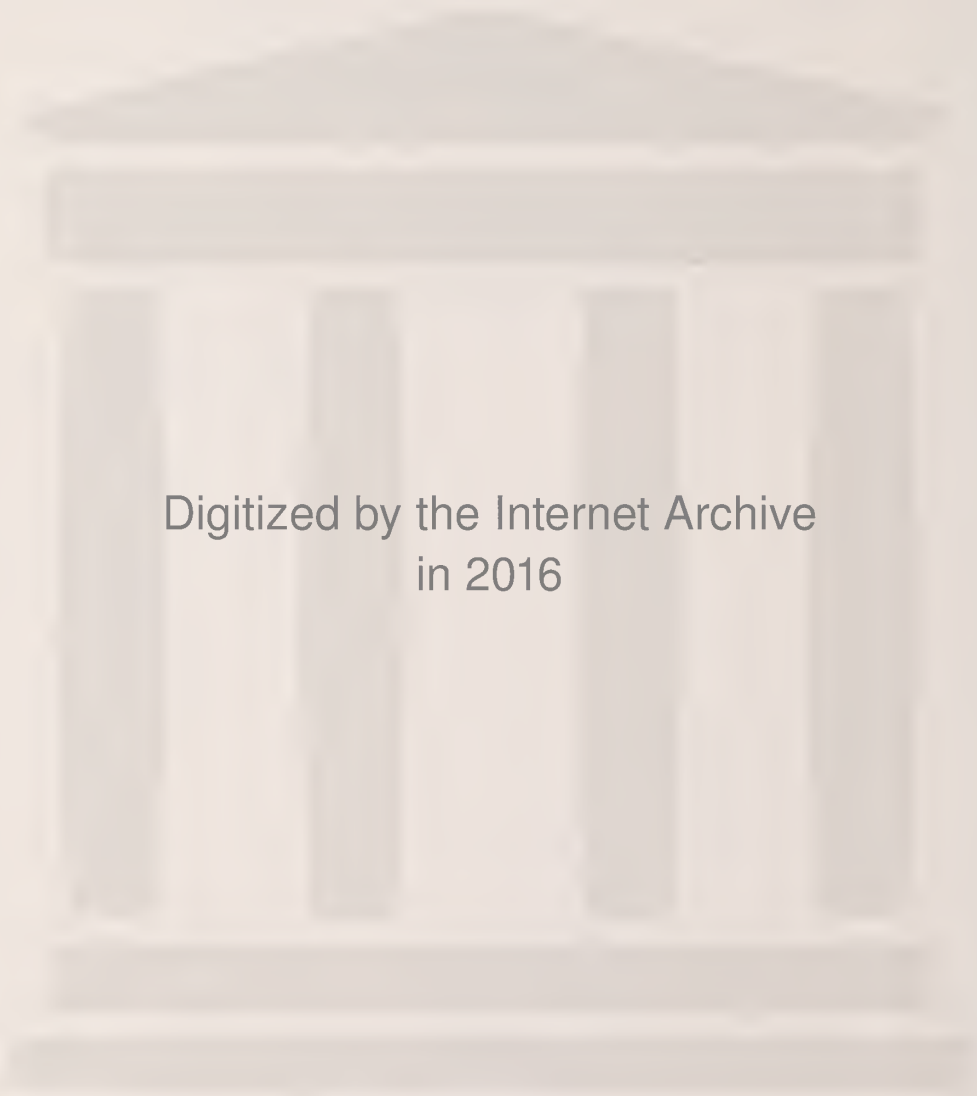




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Vol. 2.

No. 4.

❧ January Number, 1895. ❧

— THE —
CADETS'
 REVIEW

OF THE

— MARYLAND —

AGRICULTURAL COLLEGE.

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THE Maryland Agricultural College,



THE STATE COLLEGE OF MARYLAND.



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THE CADETS' REVIEW

of the

Maryland Agricultural College.

Vol. 2

January, 1895.

No. 4

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China and Japan.

THE great war now being carried on
between the countries of China and
Japan, seems destined to seal the
fate of China.

The cause of the inconsistency of the
Chinese army can be explained by the cus-
tom which they have so long rigidly up-

held, of keeping themselves exempt from
intercourse with the outside world.

For a long time both China and Japan
followed this policy, but the Japanese were
sharp enough to see that they were unable
to keep pace with the more enlightened
countries, and they were wise enough to
throw open their harbors to the ships of
foreign nations, which came to exchange
for silks, tea and such other articles as are
produced in that country, and soon the
Japanese cities were furnished with all
the conveniences of the most advanced
nations. Electric lights illuminated the
streets of their large and crowded cities.
Railroads threaded the country, and tele-
graph lines conducted messages from one
place to another.

Meanwhile the Chinese kept themselves
shut out from the rest of the world, and
developed in their own peculiar way.

When the great ships of foreign nations
would steam into the ports of Japan, the
people would have the opportunity of ob-
serving the discipline of the sailors, the
manner in which the ships were built, and
many other matters of profit and interest.

Thus the Japanese had the advantage
over the Chinese in seeing more of the
customs and habits of other nations, and
learning the mode of warfare among them.

When the war broke out between China and Japan, the latter at once applied the knowledge which she had thus gained, while China could only rely upon the resources of her own country, and her enormous armies were scattered like chaff in a northern gale before the more disciplined forces of the Japanese.

This is a proof of the advantages gained by intercourse of one nation with another.

When, by virtue of overwhelming forces, China does gain a victory over her opponent, the battle is followed by such scenes of murder and robbery as only a half civilized people are capable of producing.

No wonder then that the Japanese are determined to subjugate China at any cost, and judging from present appearances, it will be but a short time before this will be effected.

The cowardly Chinese, afraid to risk an evenly matched contest, fly before their enemies, and town after town is being captured by the Japanese.

Pekin will soon be taken, and with the fall of that great city, the Empire itself must inevitably sink. But it must be admitted that Japan is indeed a superior nation to China, and fully deserves a higher position in the esteem of the world than China, which country has already disgraced itself and disgusted civilization.

F. SHERMAN, '97.

Can't some one invent something on the order of a cowcatcher to attach to some of the big fellows in school who seem to think that the main and only object of dancing is speed.

Library Party.

On Wednesday evening, the 30th inst., Miss Silvester gave a Library party at the home of the President. The plan of the entertainment was unique, interesting and thoroughly enjoyed by all. Much merriment was evoked by the efforts of the guests to discover the titles of the literary works indicated by the artfully contrived designs.

Those present were President and Mrs. Silvester and her guests, Miss Marche, of Washington, and Miss Bowen, of Woodville, Md., the Misses Johnson, of College Park, Professor and Mrs. Alvey, Professors Spence, Taliaferro, Strickler and Welty, Messrs. Sherman and Bomberger. Prizes were awarded Miss Johnson and Professor Spence, they having discovered the greatest number of the titles of the books.

FOOT BALL TEAM.

Manager, W. S. ROLLINS,
Captain, G. M. HARRIS.

THE ATHLETIC ASSOCIATION.

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The Nicaragua Canal.

[Continued.]

BUT, judging the question from a military point of view, would it be safe for us to own and control the Canal? In answer to the question the Canal must be considered—first, As a thing to be defended; second, As an aid to defense against attacks from our enemies. The defense of the Canal would be, first, against enemies foreign to this Continent; second, enemies in the vicinity of the Canal.

We will now suppose that the object of the enemy is to cripple us by disabling the Canal. Against an enemy of the first class it will only be necessary to place two strong well-equipped garrisons at Greytown and Brito the termini of the line. These stations should be strongly fortified and well supplied with torpedoes and other means of resisting naval attacks. They should be also well supplied with stores and coal to act as bases for the fleet operating in the Gulf and on the Pacific coast. The termini of the Canal well guarded, injury from foes without the country is well-nigh impossible; since, from the nature of the country. A land attack would be almost impracticable and artillery would be useless. However in case such an attack would be attempted. A small fleet consisting of about three or four cruisers suitable for lake and river navigation, would afford ample protection to the work.

The advantages afforded for the establishment of garrison at Greytown and Brito are, strange to say, very good. Unlike most of the Central American regions, the climate here is healthy, and there is no

fear of the malignant diseases so prevalent in other parts of the Isthmus. At Greytown dredging will be necessary, but the location is favorable for the construction of an admirable harbor; while at Brito, although break-waters will be needed, winds usually blow off the the coast and a fair harbor may be constructed.

Of course it must be understood that these two stations will be protected by a fleet in times of extreme danger. In fact it would be necessary to have some means of keeping the enemy at a distance from Brito. For here three of the locks and a dam would be within easy firing range from the Sea and great damage could be done to the work. Hence external protection would be necessary. At Greytown this would not be so urgent, none of the vital points of the work being within the range of injury from the Sea.

For defense against internal foes, a system of gun-boot patrols could be established at small cost which would afford protection against marauders. At the several important points along the route, as at the great Dam at Ochoa and at each of the six locks, small outposts could be stationed within easy communication distance of each other. As the forces to be expected from such sources would be necessary. Gatling guns and rapid-fire rifles being all that would be needed. These small garrisons could be changed frequently to avoid any danger from the climate. A sanitary outpost might be stationed on one of the islands in lake Nicaragua where there is a delightful and healthy climate. This portion of the country is productive and from here could be drawn supplies for the posts at Brito and Greytown. So that although

there will be points along the route of the Canal when a little trouble would cause infinite damage, a system of defences such as is outlined above would insure its complete protection.

But it is as a means of defense against our enemies that the cause is of especial value to our government. Though it our naval forces in the Pacific would be able to act with perfect co-operation with the Atlantic squadron. By means of the Canal these forces could be concentrated at any point in a very short time. The ability to transfer our own forces from one ocean to the other at will while the Canal would be closed to our enemies would give us a wonderful advantage over them. When the fact is considered that within twenty-four hours after the orders were issued at Washington, (telegraphic communication being complete,) the Pacific fleet might be mustered into the Gulf and vice-versa, it can be readily seen that the power which the control of the Canal would give us is enormous.

In the hands of an enemy these same advantages would be afforded them. It would be just as effective against us as it would be in our favor under our own control. A strong enemy in possession of the Canal would destroy communication between our Atlantic and Pacific fleets; and utilizing the termini for bases of supply could place our large cities at their mercy. So that the necessity of our controlling it is not greater than the necessity of preventing its falling into other hands.

England is our strongest competition for its control and she is exerting every effort to gain that end. She has been quick to recognize its strategic value and acts ac-

cordingly. Just for an instant note how it would form the final link in the great chain of outposts and coaling stations she has planted around the globe. Noticing only the most important these are, Gibraltar, Malta, Suez, India, Australia, New Guinea, and many islands of the Pacific; while at the East end of the Canal are Jamaica, the Bahamas, and the Bermudas, besides her Canadian possessions and several South America provinces. In fact it is a complete chain encircling the globe with one missing link—the Nicaragua Canal.

Meanwhile what have we been doing to counterbalance this? Our own navy though comparatively small may be and is being strengthened; but a navy without coaling stations is well-nigh useless. It is in this respect that we are lacking. Too long we have trusted in our isolated position as a defense against European powers. It is time that we awake to the fact that our vaunted isolation is no longer complete. The extension of British power has effected this.

And now we have reached the final limit. What shall we do? The increasing growth of international commerce demands more immediate inter-oceanic communication. In fact the Canal must be built. The Canal constructed and controlled by us would develop every part of the country, would greatly extend our foreign trade and would render us invincible to European foes and master of America. On the contrary, its loss or passing into other hands will restrict our commerce and render us the prey of our foes. In the face of these facts shall we not build it?

Thus the matter stands. It is a vital question and deserves the consideration of

strength of will and tenacity of purpose, little can be expected from mere talent or opportunity. Perhaps no other phase of self-preparation is so well entitled to the early and constant consideration of the student.

Another and a final suggestion—the holding to a fixed individual ideal, and a repeated gauging of one's progress by its standard. This is a real, a positive help. Repeated, even daily self-examination and comparison with the ideal standard not only serves to emphasize the causes of success or failure, but what is of equal importance, teaches the student to recognize his own limitations—a hard lesson at best—to economize his vital energy, and to constantly exercise his powers of discretion. It frequently saves him, too, from the bitter chagrin of a complete failure at last.

To sum up all, I would say that every student owes as a sacred duty to himself the recognition of these several obligations: First, so to place himself in touch with the educational influence which he has called upon to aid him as to derive the greatest possible amount of benefit therefrom; second, so as to order the conduct of his life as to discipline and develop to the utmost of its capacity that most important factor in education, the will; and third, to set up an ideal standard for himself, and adhere thereto, not narrowly or obstinately, but consistently, firmly and wisely.

R. H. A.

The Senior and Junior Classes are now busily engaged surveying the original tract of the College property, and all are given an opportunity to show their skill as axmen.

Current Topics—The Past Election.

NEVER before in the history of our country has there been such a remarkable exhibition of the rapidity and effectiveness with which popular political sentiment may change, than was exemplified in the recent elections. Two years ago this government was in the hands of the Republican party. President, Senate and House were all Republican. In the election of November, '92, Republican control was completely obliterated. A Democratic President, Senate and House were elected. Now, again, after two short years, another revolution has been accomplished, and the Republicans are returned to power in the House, while the Democratic majority in the Senate is destroyed.

The result is as unexpected as it is decisive. Not even the most sanguine Republican ever dreamed of such a terrific landslide; while the most pessimistic Democrat failed to imagine a defeat one-tenth so overwhelming. At the beginning of the campaign it was calculated that the Republicans would have to gain fifty-five Congressmen to have a simple majority in the House. To attain that majority it would require a strong, vigorous fight, and both parties considered the contest a close one; yet both were hopeful.

Therefore, the fact that the Republicans will have a majority of nearly 150 in the House, while their power in the Senate is about equal to that of the Democrats—the Populists holding the balance of power—is simply astonishing. In fact the victory to the Republican party is complete. All the districts considered doubtful and many heretofore considered safely Democratic

showed Republican majorities. Five of the great Democratic leaders in the last Congress were defeated — Springer, of Illinois ; Holman and Bynum, of Indiana ; Wilson, of West Virginia ; and Tom L. Johnson, of Ohio. It is particularly striking that over thirty Republican Congressmen will be sent from the "Solid South—even Texas electing a Republican. While the result in New York is probably more overwhelming than elsewhere, existing circumstances render it more of a local victory, in its immediate effects, than otherwise; but it will give the Republicans an advantage in Presidential campaigns for years to come.

Regardless of the causes which produced these results, we as a people, may feel a deep satisfaction in the contemplation of this election. The American people have clearly demonstrated that they are deeply interested in the affairs of the Government and moreover, that they are both capable and willing to make felt their wishes in this respect. Especially is this true in New York. A people who have the courage to rise in their might and rebuke a political organization so powerful as Tammany Hall, whose corrupt influence, like a mighty octopus had clutched every department of the State and City governments, are still capable of governing themselves ; and we, believers in the right and justice of popular self-government, may feel an increased confidence in the permanence of our civil institutions. It is clearly a demonstration of the fact that the people are supreme ; and that political corruption and intrigue, while it may under certain conditions exist and flourish for a time, must inevitably succumb to the will of the people.

But there are undoubtedly underlying causes which produced such a remarkable change of public sentiment. When the present Democratic President and Congress were elected in 1892, the fight was along the lines of tariff reform and protection and their election pledged them to tariff reform. It would now seem that the overwhelming defeat which the party have just suffered, might be regarded as indicating the repudiation of tariff reform for protection. But Republicans should not be too rapid in forming their conclusions regard to this matter. It must be remembered that we have just passed through a financial and commercial panic such as we have not passed through for years. Both may be attributed in great part to the vacillating, dilatory methods of legislation in the last Congress. The panic was undoubtedly largely due to the uncertainty arising from the aimless and almost endless discussion of silver in the Senate and the indefinite tinkering with the tariff. It is not surprising then that the country should give a vote of non-confidence in the party which failed to fulfil its pledges at the cost of financial and commercial prosperity.

However, this election does not necessarily mean a return to the radical protectionism of four years ago. In fact, Republican leaders pretty generally acknowledge the fact that the course of that party returned to full power in '96, while continuing along the same general lines would be more conservative than before. But the Republican Congress recently elected does not go into session until March. Meanwhile the present Democratic Congress has a term remaining before it, and it will be interesting to observe its course.

It will be remembered that there are at present before the Senate bills which have passed the House for free iron, free coal, free sugar and free barb-wire. Undoubtedly a strenuous effort will be made to force these bills through the Senate, but the party have not much hope for success. So that the probability of further tariff legislation during this session will be slight.

But when the next Congress meets a striking spectacle will be presented. A strong Republican House will be checked by a Senate controlled by Populists and counter-checked by a Democratic President. The prospect does not promise much in the line of legislation. So that the Republican victory in controlling the House is rather negative than positive. It is now thought that they will not organize the Senate, not desiring to accept the responsibility it would entail, since they would not have a working majority and would be compelled to make concessions to the Populists which would be embarrassing. Moreover, the President is hostile to them.

Yet the one great positive advantage given to the Republicans by controlling the House is apparent when it is considered that the election of the next President is likely to be thrown into the House. In this case the President will be Republican. They thus have two chances of winning. In case the Republican candidate does not control a majority in the Electoral College (neither of the other candidates having a majority) his election by the House is certain.

The result in New York is significant for several reasons. In the first place the awful defeat which was visited upon

Tammany will almost completely disable that organization for a time at least. Especially will this be the case in the city of New York. Both the Mayor and the City Council being Republican the entire municipal government will be reorganized and renovated. Then in the defeat of Hill for gubernatorial honors, the party is deprived of a possible candidate for the Presidency in '96. Mr. Hill's defeat will place him out of reach of that position. Moreover, by the adoption of the constitutional amendments, the Republican legislature just elected will reapportion the State and this cannot be changed for twenty years. So that the State is practically given to the Republicans for an indefinite length of time. This will do much towards brightening Republican hopes of success in '96.

F. B. B., '94.

The completion of the new heating apparatus is looked forward to by all in the building.

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Regular drill in artillery has begun, and every boy in school will be given an opportunity to try his strength and skill with the guns.

÷

A meeting of the Presidents of all the Agricultural Colleges was held in Washington during the week beginning Nov. 12. Quite a delegation visited the College and Experiment Station.

÷

The University of Michigan has a great weakness for electing its own graduates into the faculty, in which body there are fifty of them - Ex.

Literary Department.

H. R. GRAHAM, '95.

Civil Service and Civil Service Reform.

IN ITS comprehensive sense, the civil service of a nation, state or city, embraces the whole body of officers, who manage the civil affairs of its government. It could hardly include a person employed only as a laborer for the government, but sometimes it is very difficult to determine whether certain employees of the government are officers or simply laborers.

The civil service under enlightened forms of government is separated into three branches—the legislative, the judicial and the executive. The legislative branch is essentially representative. This representative function of legislators and the duty of adapting the laws of a people to their varied and changing interest and opinions, make the views, interest, and to some extent the residence of candidates for legislative offices an important part of the proper tests of fitness for the places they seek. Such considerations also point to popular elections as the best means of selecting such officers.

But in the United States different considerations should prevail in the selection of the clerks and other subordinates, from the secretaries and chief clerks down to the copyists and the messengers who are in no sense representative. They owe no duty to members of one party that they do not as much owe to members of the other party. To make them partisan workers for the dominant party is to mistake their func-

tions and to practice despotism. That knowledge of form and details which such subordinates have learned by long practice is of especial importance to new members, and greatly facilitates the business of a legislative body; yet nearly all state legislatures and both houses of Congress and almost every municipal council are in the habit of treating these subordinates as so patronage which should be given to their party. It is plain that their selection should depend solely on their capacity for advancing the business portion of that work.

The judicial branch of the government is in no proper sense representative. "A despot may make it such to intrench his despotism; an aristocracy may make it such to add strength to class privileges, and a party in a republic may make it such to perpetuate its power and reward its adherents." It is too much to expect that judges, who feel the need of conciliating voters for reelection at the end of a short term, will carry the scales evenly between an humble citizen who can control no vote but his own and a great corporation or a great politician who can control hundreds. In the United States it has been but the natural outcome of a short term elective judiciary that clerks and other court officers have become a part of the spoils for the victorious party in many of the states and cities. And this is the view which has been causing so many of the states to retrace, in part at least, their disastrous advances in the direction of a short term partisan judiciary.

In the executive department is found the vast majority of those civil officers by whom the government is carried on. There are more than 150,000 in the civil service of the United States without including those of

Corea and Her People.

COREA, a small kingdom of Eastern Asia, the greater part of which occupies a peninsula stretching south from the northern portion of the Chinese Empire, appears for the first time in Chinese History in 1122 B. C. Neither at that time, nor for centuries afterwards, does it seem to have formed a political unity but consisted of such states as Huvay Shin-hair, Pilitse and Sinto, which are mentioned in the Chinese records.

It was for the possession of this small kingdom, that caused the late war between Japan and China, in which Japan was victorious and now claims Corea.

The people of Corea, like their neighbors the Japanese have no arts or industries, being exempt from all communication with the civilized world living only upon what their country produces, or what they themselves manufacture. The industrial arts are but slightly developed, the peasant himself in most cases supplying by his own labor the greater part of his needs. The one manufacture in which the Corean ranks really high is that of paper, a material employed as in Japan in a great variety of ways.

Trade is mainly carried on by means of markets or fairs, but transactions are hampered by the deficiency of currency, they only having one kind of coin, a small piece of copper, known as a "sapeke" and even this is not in use in the northern provinces.

As in China, so in Corea, learning is ostensibly in high estimation, and all public officials must pass certain examinations.

The student is left free to follow any trade or profession, and receive instruction from any source whatever. The examiners who are appointed by the Government, hold examinations once every year in the capital, and candidates flock thither from all the provinces.

Buddhism according to native tradition, was introduced into Corea in the 4th century and under the dynasty of Kowo, it became the official religion. However in the 14th century it gave place to the doctrine of Confucius, which continues to the present day as the established creed.

Corean houses are generally small, they being one-story, flimsily constructed of wood, clay and rice straw, usually covered with thatch and badly provided with windows. The floor is made of stone covered with oil paper, sometimes with mats of poor quality. The King's Palace until lately was little better than the houses of the other people, except that in the grounds he had a grand stone building which he calls the "summer palace" but which he only inhabits on state occasions.

In examining the history of the Coreans, it must be understood that they are lazy and depressed, but by no means a stupid people.

G. W. SCHENCK.

Mr. S. S. Buckley, '93, has recently presented the College Library with a valuable addition of new books.

* * *

The Rifle Team is practicing daily, and expects to be ready to meet all comers on the field of contest by spring.

Literary Department.

H. R. GRAHAM, '95.

Is the Human Race Degenerating?

A Fragment.

THOSE who take a gloomy view of the future of mankind are called pessimists. Those who claim that man is progressing to a higher type are styled optimists.

The former appeal to the history of the human race, and assert that the people of ancient times were in no wise inferior in physical and mental endowments to those of the present age. This conclusion is denied by the optimists, who claim for the men of to-day superiority in every respect that so far as man is concerned, his modifiability is unlimited.

Thus the issue is fairly presented.

The burden of proof remains with the optimists. In every age, in every clime, the same story is told, until it has become a proverb, that history repeats itself. The tendency of living matter to undergo continual modifications, to end in death, what is known as cyclical changes, is one of its distinctive properties.

In like manner history records the cycle of national life; birth, development, death, rise, decline and fall of nations. It is the environment which determines the special phenomena during the cycle.

The earth is strewn with the wrecks of nations who have left the remains of grand

civilizations, quite as great as that of the moderns when we compare the means and forces at command, evidencing equal if not superior mental endowments. Each in turn has taken from its high eminence to one of degeneracy.

Everywhere man has marked the earth with ruin, nor does his control stop with the shore for he is now at work with the contrivances of modern civilization in ravaging the great deep itself, "*nati consumers fruges*," and everything else he can lay his hands on. He may be traced by his trail of blood and rapine; his crimes smell rank to heaven.

We must seek a reason for so constant a result in the physical and mental nature of man himself.

The ancient empires of Assyria and of Egypt have gone through their respective cycles. Their monumental histories bear testimony to great intelligence, to that order, persistence and pursuit which is alone followed by a magnitude of results.

When we come down to a later period—the case of Greece—the story is repeated. Illustrious for everything that adorns and ennobles humanity, she has given the world a pure philosophy of morals—to science great contributions.

The atomic hypothesis of the constitution of matter is the basis of the physical philosophy of the present age; it is the invention of the Greek philosopher Leucippus, improved by his disciples Democritus and Epicurus. It was adopted by the Roman poet and scientist Lucretius, and by the illustrious Pliny. It fell into desuetude until the science of chemistry was founded by the immortal Lavoisier.

Her warriors, statesmen, orators stand pre-eminent. Her works of sculpture and architecture are unequalled. They serve now, for models for the splendid palaces which adorn the world, and for cathedrals fit for the worship of God himself.

Language marks the progress of civilization. Cicero said, if Jupiter were to speak the Greek language he would borrow the style of Plato.

Yet Greece is living Greece no more, a province yet an empire, until recently, through the power of other nations, the stance of the Turks themselves, a remnant of a mighty nation.

" You had the letters Cadmus gave
Think you he meant them for a slave ? "

Every attribute which distinguished them is gone. They are said, now, to be the most crafty traders of the world, well skilled to make the worse appear the better merchandise.

Physically, mentally, morally degenerate, her cycle is complete, to exhibit to the world her saddest example of the degeneracy of the human race. What of her environment — Greece and the Isles of Greece remain as of yore ; all save the spirit of the Greek is divine.

" The Isles of Greece, the Isles of Greece
Where burning Sappho loved and sung,
Where grew the arts of war and peace ;
Where Delos rose and Phœbus sprung,
Eternal summer gilds them yet,
And all except the sun is set."

The Romans conquered all nations, and Rome was mistress of the world ; of all that wealth could command. All art was hers, all science, all philosophy, all religions. All the great and good men were hers ; all the saints and sages.

Has the spacious world ever afforded such an opportunity to develop a high type of man, and a noble civilization, with the power and means to spread its influence over a benighted world.

Yet the Roman Empire passed through the oft-repeated cycle, rise, decline, fall—the fragments of the empire compose the nations of modern Europe, while the Latin is the basis of their language. Instead of progress and development to a grander civilization we witness reversion to a lower type ; when a long period of mental darkness and monkish ignorance prevailed in Italy and the rest of Europe.

We may date the commencement of the dark or middle ages at the sixth century and its continuance to the end of the fourteenth, when science began to shed her cheering light over the benighted western world. It was driven from the East by the Turks, another nation rising to greatness destined to decline and fall.

Attention may next be directed to the Saracens or Arabians where philosophy found an asylum, when ignorance and barbarism overspread the rest of the world. Eminent schools of learning flourished in the Arabian empire, as well as in Asia, as in Egypt, Barbary and Spain.

The Arabians not only cultivated the sciences of the Greeks with success, but made a vast improvement on the doctrine of numbers by performing the arithmetical operations by means of general characters and signs, which has given rise to the science of algebra.

Great proficiency in astronomy must also be allowed the Arabians.

Draper gives a glowing account of Moorish civilization in Spain.

What of the Saracens? The same story must be repeated—rise, decline, degeneracy of this branch of the human race.

What of the *chosen people*? The call of Abraham, 1985 B. C. In Israel the regal power commenced 1100 B. C., in the person of Saul, to whom succeeded in order, David, Solomon, Rehoboam.

Revolt of the Ten Tribes. Their delivery into the hands of the Assyrians. Their dispersal among the Gentiles. The kingdom of Judah suffered a similar fate; the holy city was taken, her temple destroyed and the miserable remains of the people led into captivity.

The Temple was rebuilt in the reign of Darius Hystaspes * * * * Finally the Romans took Jerusalem, demolished the Temple, desolated the kingdom and dispersed her whole nation in the year 70, A. D. The same story is told of every nation of which ancient history records: Egypt, Assyria, Persia, Israel, Greece, Rome, India, China.

What of Modern Europe?

"Facitus deservus Averni, sed revocare gradum hic labor, hoc opus est."

The renaissance is due to science.

It may be said that the history of France to the period of the Revolution of 1790, is a history of modern civilization. Feudalism and slavery, religious persecution and the age of witchcraft, triumph of kings and the church over the nobles of the land, and the consequent fate of feudalism.

Oppression by the Federal nobles—tyranny by kings, persecution by church.

The horrors of the French Revolution

evidence the state of degradation to which her people had been reduced.

"France drunk with blood vomited crime."

Modern Europe is distinguished for intelligence, invention, art, science; for very many things which enoble men and women. But these qualities seem to be the endowment of the few. Eutopia would have us believe that the masses are capable of the same development. There is little reason for such a conclusion.

The Aryans, so-called, have been divided into two stocks, Xanthochroi and Melanochroi.

"With these two has originated every thing that is highest—in science, in art, in law, in politics and in mechanical inventions. In their hands at the present moment lies the order of the social world, and to them its progress is committed."—*Huxley*.

What of the other races of mankind? Is the law of the survival of the fittest to be applied, and the Aryans to take possession of the earth to vindicate the ways of God to man?

But commerce under the guidance of Science will bring the nations of the earth together, which must result in miscegenation. What then will become of the mission of the Aryans?

Foremost of the causes of the decline and fall of the Roman Empire was the comingling of so many stocks of the human race. The Roman blood underwent a kind of putriferactive fermentation. So will it be with the boasted Aryan race, and history will repeat the same old story.

And what of America?

There is a mass of evidence that when discovered by Columbus, America had nearly completed her cycle, which was finished by the European nations who took possession of this magnificent hemisphere of the globe.

The history of Mexico and South America since their occupation by Europeans will scarcely be adduced in evidence of the progress to a higher civilization and the production of a higher type of man, but rather the degeneracy of both the Spanish and native population.

What of the United States, which, in every respect, is one of the grandest countries of the world, extending from the regions of snow to the tropics, from the Atlantic to the Pacific, with every condition, climate, soil, production, to conduce to the development of his best type of man and the grandest civilization the world ever saw.

At the close of the Revolution there were 3,000,000 men from the most enlightened nations of Europe. There has been evolved as high a type of man as the world had ever seen.

Yet these great specimens of the human family did not know what to do with America.

They attempted the impossible—to form a government of liberty, equality and fraternity, between people of different kinds, different views, different interests by means of a written constitution.

The mutilated production may be found in all libraries.

From the beginning there was a struggle for power between the North and the South. Quarrels and disputes mark the

progress of the government, to culminate in a civil war of the greatest magnitude and ferocity ever witnessed.

It is now a Union by the cannon and the gatling gun. The pessimist fails to see that, from biological truths, the highest type of man and the grandest civilization is to be evolved by the micingeneration of the scum of Europe, the liberated African, with a sprinkling of people from every nation of the world—albeit a few of the uncontaminated may survive to witness to what a degree of excellence it were possible to attain if men were not men.

What has become, asks the pessimists, of the illustrious families who have from age to age adorned the world. They have all degenerated and been swallowed, each in turn, by the seething mass of humanity.

This is the age of cities, and God's country seems only to produce what is necessary to contribute to their comfort and enjoyment, their luxury and dissipation.

What of the great cities of the world? but it is time to present the other side of the question, and to show that the progress of man is onward and upward.

PROF. M. P. SCOTT.

Mercer Literary Society.

President, W. W. SKINNER.

Vice-President, W. T. S. ROLLINS.

Secretary and Treas., H. C. JONES.

Editor, F. WALSH.

Critic, W.B. CRAPSTER.

The Nicaragua Canal.

THE project of constructing an inter-oceanic canal upon the American continent is by no means of recent origin. The necessity, felt in the days of Columbus, of a shorter route to India has never been obviated. Today the demand for inter-oceanic communication on this continent is more urgent than ever before.

For the last fifty years the question has been before the eyes of the world, and the great nations have been eager in their desire to build and control such a canal. Our government has always shown an active interest in the scheme. At various times engineers have been sent out under its orders to determine the possible routes for the canal, until the whole isthmus has been carefully gone over. In 1872 operations in this direction took on a more definite form, when U. S. Grant, then President, appointed a commission consisting of officers of the army and navy, to investigate the matter of inter-oceanic communication. The commission reported in 1876, recommending the route which extends from Greytown on the Gulf coast, along the San Juan river through Lake Nicaragua, to Brito on the Pacific coast. The whole of the country traversed by this route lies in Nicaragua except for the short distance where it follows the San Juan river, which is the boundary line between Nicaragua and Costa Rica.

The construction of a ship canal over this route is by no means a light undertaking. There are difficulties in the way which appear enormous. But careful estimate have been made and it has been clearly shown that not only is the project practi-

cable, but that it may be constructed at a reasonable cost.

Up to this time no really active measures have been taken to promote the construction of the canal. True a company was formed in this country some years ago, but nothing definite was done and the company has been for some time on the verge of disbanding. But it is fast becoming a burning question to us as a nation, and the public is becoming aroused to the necessity of such a canal, and the desirability—in fact, essentially, to our welfare,—of controlling it.

The French have been the only people thus far, to put their theories into practice. In 1881 a company was formed in France, under the leadership of Ferdinand De Lesseps, for the purpose of constructing a canal across the Isthmus of Panama. It was not a government undertaking, the stock being owned by individuals. The attempt ended in failure. After spending \$350,000,000, only about one fifth of the work was done. Investigations instituted by the French Government discovered vast frauds which had been practiced upon the stock-holders, resulting in the famous Panama Canal scandal, and the practical failure of the project. In fact, it is about concluded that the Panama Canal will never be finished.

Meanwhile all engineers who are familiar with the country endorse the Nicaragua route; and it is almost certain that the canal constructed will follow this route. Moreover it cannot be doubted that the canal will ultimately be built. Now the question arises, shall the United States control it when completed?

This question is of vital importance to us

as a government: but the answer to it is not by any means a certain one. I think it will be shown later that it is absolutely necessary for us to control it; but it is not at all clear now that we have that right. Owing to certain complications which have arisen between Great Britain and this country in regard to this matter, the possibility of our controlling the canal is not strongly assured.

England, in pursuance of her colonial policy, has been gradually extending her power and influence. She has always been active to seize upon strategic points and to appropriate them for her own aggrandizement and defense. Hence she has shown an unusual interest in the proposition of constructing the canal. It was this activity and shrewd diplomacy which caused this government to commit a greivous blunder entitled the "Clayton-Bulwer Treaty," by which our right to construct and to control the canal is placed very much in doubt. Nicaragua has always been friendly with our government. As an evidence of this amicable feeling, in 1849 a treaty was ratified by the government of that country and submitted to our Senate for approval, which granted to the United States or a company of American citizens under its protection, the right to build a canal and to have full control of it. This treaty under whose liberal provisions the canal might now be an accomplished fact, was never ratified by the Senate. The Clayton-Bulwer treaty with England was adopted in its stead. By its provisions, Great Britain is made with this country joint constructor and projector of the canal, while its strict neutrality is guaranteed. And herein lies the blunder, that this government should

cast aside a treaty granting us an American canal under American control, to substitute for it another which gives to an European power an equal right to its control an action directly opposed to the principle contained in the Monroe doctrine, which denies to European powers the right to interfere with the affairs of this continent. This principle has been the rule of action for our government from the time of its foundation and the Clayton-Bulwer treaty is an unjustifiable breach of it. That this treaty was a blunder, there can be no doubt. The canal when constructed should be controlled by America. European powers would not tolerate American control of Suez; then have we not an equal right on this side of the ocean?

But our State Department claims that the provisions of this treaty no longer are valid since a part have been violated by Great Britain. One of the stipulations of the treaty is that that country should not try to extend her power in Central America. Nevertheless, she has appropriated a portion of that territory and now exercises a kind of protectorate over a part of Honduras, termed the Mosquito coast. This is claimed to be a violation of the treaty and hence its further provisions are void. The matter has never been decided, and until it is, our claim to the control of the canal will not be assured.

But do we desire the management of the canal? Would its construction and control benefit this country? In reply, I would say that the advantages we would derive from it in our power, would be inestimable; the loss which would result from its passing into other hands than ours would be infinitely great. We have a deeper and a strong-

er interest in this canal than any other nation. Such a canal would be in fact, an extension of our coast line.

We have 10,000 miles of coast line on the Atlantic, separated from 10,000 miles of Pacific coast by 14,000 miles of rough and stormy seas around the "Horn". Our Pacific slope is the richest portion of the globe.

The state of California alone would be able to support the population of the whole of North America. Here are mines of gold and silver inexhaustable; forests that will supply the world with timber for ages to come; and a soil which is without equal for productiveness and variety of productions. Why then, has not this region been developed in proportion to its resources? Here is the reason: Liverpool and New York, (the markets of the world) are 15,600 miles from San Francisco; while Calcutta is only 8,000 miles from Liverpool by the Suez. This shows a difference of nearly 8,000 miles of transportation in favor of the wheat and other productions of India against those of California: and an explanation is offered for the practical non-development of the Pacific slope.

Now build the Nicaragua Canal and California will be brought nearer Liverpool than Calcutta is by the Suez, while it is brought correspondingly nearer to all the other ports of Northern Europe and of this country. What must inevitably be the effect? Remove the cost of 8,000 miles of transportation and our Western States will be placed on an equal footing with other nations of the world. Competition would be more even (in fact, the advantage would be in our favor), and there would follow a development of that section of our

country more marvellous than followed the discovery of gold in 1848.

Nor would the Pacific slope alone be benefitted. The coal fields of the South are unsurpassed in richness. By the ship canal this coal could be placed in the Pacific cheaper than that of any other country of the world. The cotton of the South would find a ready market in Japan, and could readily compete with that of India, since the distance would then be nearly equalized. The entire Mississippi Valley would receive a corresponding benefit.

The Atlantic States would probably reap a larger immediate return than any other part of the country; because, whereas New York and Liverpool are now about equi-distant from San Francisco, the ship-canal would bring New York 2,700 miles nearer than Liverpool. And, owing to this decrease of distance, the vast portion of our Western trade which now goes to European countries (estimated to be about three-fourths of the entire trade of that section), would, as a matter of course, go to our great cities along the Atlantic seaboard. A reference to the map will show that China and Japan would be nearer New York by way of Nicaragua than to Liverpool by way of the Suez, and we could thus compete advantageously for the trade of those countries. In fact, "at the present time there are more than 70,000,000 people in and around the Pacific ocean who will be brought nearer to New York, by distances varying from 3,000 to 10,500 miles, than they now are."

We thus see into what advantageous commercial relations the whole of our Western coast and the many lands of the

Pacific, would be brought with our Eastern cities. A mere glance at the phenomenal results attending the construction of the Erie and Sault Ste. Marie canals will show to what an extent the ship-canal would develop the Western and Southern sections of our country. The regions adjoining these great public works have increased in a few years ten-fold in value.

But one of the greatest results attending the building of the Canal would be the consolidation of this country which it would effect. The different sections of our land are separated by natural barriers and are subject to entirely different natural conditions. Sectional prejudice and jealousy prevail. This canal by bringing them 8,000 miles nearer together, would demonstrate more clearly their true relations to one another; and a more complete commercial, and consequently political, union would be the result.

Any fears as to whether the canal would pay are unfounded. From its location it would command from the start a tonnage equal to that which passes through Suez; while the subsequent increase would be infinitely greater owing to the fact that the countries from which it would draw its patronage are for the most part undeveloped and possess greater possibilities of development.

(To be Continued.)

F. B. B., '94.

The intermediate examinations were held during the latter part of November, during which time many a young heart beat quicker with anxiety as he marched to the section room with the little green covered book under his arm.

Association Columns.

H. H. OWENS, Editor; W. S. ROLLINS,
Assistant.

Should Football Be Abolished?

IT IS claimed by many people that football is a game that can never be properly played; that it cannot be placed on a footing with baseball or other athletic amusements, because it is brutal and dangerous.

It must be conceded, I think, that all out-door sports involve a certain degree of danger of bodily harm to those participating in them. There have been injuries resulting from even the most innocent of games — tennis and croquet. The only question I propose to consider is the one involving the risk of life, limb and health, and this as regards football alone.

A severe English critic says: "In the old game you kicked the ball; in the Rugby game you kick a man if you cannot kick the ball; but in the modern American game you kick the ball if you cannot kick the man." But I am going to prove, if possible, that with all its faults, it is one of the best forms of athletic sports which can be invented; that by no other game or exercise practiced by young men are the players themselves so much benefitted as by football; that the colleges ought to be as much interested in keeping it up as are the most enthusiastic football players themselves; that the public, who have boys to educate, ought to acquaint themselves with the subject.

A game of football between contestants evenly matched in other respects is won by the superior mental work of the winning team as embodied in the generalship of the captain and the thoughtful work of his men. In the first place, the rules of the game must be observed by every player. He must have them thoroughly in mind, in order to know what he can do, as well as to avoid what he is not permitted to do.

These rules are very numerous, more numerous than the rules of any other college sport, and cover a wider sphere of action.

The interpretation and application of them in every movement of play call for no ordinary quickness of mind in a successful player. Though each man has a special line of play belonging to his position on a team, yet his plays are so related to the plays of the rest of the team that he cannot act without regard to the other players. It is eminently a game of combinations. Individual play is important, but team play is more important. That the game has had attractions for intellectual men in the past is shown by the fact that the average scholarship of men in the football teams has of late years been higher than that of men in other athletic organizations. Of the benefits which the players receive from football, the physical benefits are the least noteworthy.

Yet the play brings into activity almost every muscle of the body. The legs, arms and trunk are all used.

It has been stated that students cannot play football and keep up with their studies too. Take it for granted that eight hours per week were given to football practice, it does not follow that this time is taken

from study, or that, if the game of football were driven out of college all of the players would "take to their boots". Some of them would give part of their time to study, but the poor scholars of the team would still continue to be poor students. When they are on the team the very necessity of economizing their time compels these men to regulate hours of work. When they cease to play football they waste their time.

One of the greatest objections to the game is that there is in some cases a great deal of "slugging" going on, but this can easily be broken up by making the penalty greater. A man who is caught "slugging" in a game should be disqualified for the rest of the season, or should be banished from the field then and forever. The man who loses his temper in the scrimmage will be surely outplayed. The man who plays an off-side and unfair game may at a critical moment lose the few yards which will give his opponents victory.

We are bound if we wish to have football abolished to prove that not only is the proportion of accidents in excess to those in other games, but that they are necessarily incidents of a proper game of football.

The expert football players themselves say that no man is fit to play football until he has been thoroughly trained and coached, and that a large proportion of the terrible accidents are among young men who are unfitted from want of training, to take what are great risks at all to young men properly trained and properly coached.

* * *

The football season has so recently ended that its results are perfectly fresh in the minds of all. It would seem, in deed, from

every patriotic American citizen. The people are awakening. The question will soon be discussed in Congress and it is to be hoped that the true force of the situation be seen, and prompt and effective measures taken to promote the project. There are many reasons why the government should undertake the work rather than a company of individual citizens. It is a matter of national importance and as such should receive prompt consideration.

What we want is an "American Canal under American control." In fact, we want a full vindication of the Monroe Doctrine. I believe the American people will realize the vital importance of the Canal to our national prosperity and safety, and that the Canal will be built and controlled by us and that before many years shall have passed away.

F. B. B.

M. A. C House of Commons.

"NULLUS argento color est avaris
abdito terris."

Even the precious metals, says the Roman philosopher and lyrist, "lose their lustre when buried," and how much more truly may that be predicated of mental than of material wealth. Gold and silver even though buried yet retain their intrinsic value, but latent talent hidden beneath the rubbish of shyness, timidity and awkward inexperience, which so often conceal it has neither lustre nor value, and lacking the enduring properties of metals cannot last till in some future age a lucky accident may bring it to light.

Perhaps, of all talents the one most apt

to be thus obscured is that for public speaking and debate, and it is therefore with peculiar pleasure that we note the organization at the M. A. C. of a society especially designed for the improvement of its members in debate and parliamentary law, and which from its methods seems admirably adapted to accomplish its ends.

The name of this society is that at the head of this article and as its constitution contains some novel features, a summary of it may be interesting.

The membership of the society consists of the Senior and Junior classes, the College Faculty, the Experiment Station Staff and resident graduates.

The officers consist of a speaker, clerk and sergeant-at-arms, and a ministry composed of a Prime Minister, a Home Secretary and a Foreign Secretary.

The speaker, clerk and sergeant-at-arms are elected—the speaker for one evening, the clerk and sergeant-at-arms for the college term—making the latter two the only permanent officers.

The Prime Minister is appointed by the speaker. He appoints the Home and Foreign secretaries and with them holds office till compelled to resign by an adverse vote in the House.

It is the duty of the ministry to prepare and introduce bills for discussion and generally to conduct the business and look after the business of the society, their position being largely modeled upon that of the British cabinet.

One essentially novel feature in a debating society is the election of a new presiding officer for each evening. This is intended to insure frequent rotation in office and to give more insight into the organiza-

tion and dispatch of business by public meetings. The method of the speaker's election, as provided by the constitution, is for the clerk to call the meeting to order at the appointed hour and preside until a temporary chairman is elected. The latter then takes the gavel until the Speaker is elected by viva voice vote. The form, it will be seen, is practically that observed in any ordinary town meeting or other public assembly. A lack of familiarity with even these elementary principles not infrequently hampers the proceedings of popular assemblies and enables those who have some knowledge of the forms of procedure to exercise undue influence in the meeting.

The M. A. C. House of Commons has held its first regular meeting, January 22d, with Mr. W. W. Skinner, class of '95, speaker; Prof. Thos. H. Spence, clerk, and Mr. Geo. W. Harris, class of '94, sergeant-at-arms.

The ministry, composed of Mr. F. B. Bomberger, class of '94, Prime Minister; Mr. H. C. Sherman, '93, Home Secretary; and Mr. Lindsey McCauldsh, '95, Foreign Secretary, presented several bills for the consideration of the House, which passed on their first reading.

A lively discussion was precipitated by a resolution that each member of the House be assigned to some one of the United States, and that he be always addressed as the member from that State.

A number of amendments were offered and warmly advocated, but were all defeated except one, to equalize representation and to put the territories and the District of Columbia on the same footing as the States.

The proceeding of Tuesday evening, Jan. 29th, were equally interesting. The House having organized with Mr. Roland Harrison as Speaker, went into committee of the whole to consider bill number two, for the construction of the Nicaragua Canal by the United States. A determined effort to defeat the ministry prolonged the discussion till a late hour, when a motion to adjourn coming from the opposition prevailed, leaving the bill still with the committee of the whole.

The methods of procedure in the Society seem especially favorable for the promotion of that spirit of honorable emulation which is the life and soul of all such organizations and the House of Commons should, and doubtless will have a permanent and prominent place in the development of student character at the M. A. C.

FOOT BALL TEAM.

Manager, W. S. ROLLINS,
Captain, G. M. HARRIS.

THE ATHLETIC ASSOCIATION.

President, J. G. BANNON.
Vice-President, G. M. HARRIS.
Treasurer, R. BEALE.
Recording Secretary, C. S. MULLIKIN.
Corresponding Sec., H. H. OWENS.
Censor, T. P. WHARTON.

BASE BALL TEAM.

Manager and Captain, G. M. HARRIS.

Civil Service Reform.

THE Civil Service of a nation means the whole body of officers who conduct the affairs of the Government.

The public service of the United States and in fact of all civilized countries is divided into three great branches, the civil, the military, and the naval.

In this paper we will deal only with the Civil Service, but it is often very difficult to decide whether an official belongs to be classed with the civil or the military service. It often happens that the officials have duties to perform which are allied to both classes of service. For instance, the President of the United States is at the head of one of the great branches of civil service and is also Commander in Chief of the Army and Navy. Hence the difficulty of classification.

Any office in the public service of a nation is a trust given in charge of the man holding the office, and he should at all times be impressed with this idea of trust and having in mind this trust, should perform his duties with a high regard for legal and moral obligations. He should always strive for the good of the public and not for any particular, faction or party. It is his duty to be economical, faithful and efficient and should endeavor to make his office whatever it may be, a benefit to the general populace.

As we found the whole public service divided into three parts, again we find the civil service divided into three other classes, legislative, judicial and executive.

Without entering into the details regarding these three departments, other than

the mention of the fact that there are employed in the executive alone over 50,000 officials above the grade of laborers; we will turn at once to one of the great questions of the day, namely. "Civil Service Reform."

Civil service reform in its broadest sense would mean the reform of all the abuses in the federal and municipal administration. But in recent years its sense has been so restricted as to mean only the reform of the abuses brought on by "spoils system." Which system maintains that the offices belong to the party in power.

That they should be given as a reward to party adherents for party work, or according to the maxim "to the victors belong the spoils of the enemy."

In Great Britain more than fifty years ago it was found to be impossible for the appointing power to learn by personal observation of the fitness of all the individuals who seek offices. Hence it was necessary to assist the appointing power by requiring an examination of all persons applying for office. These examinations were called pass-examinations and eventually led to a regular system of competitive examinations. Which were found to be of material advantage in placing in office persons who were more competent to perform the duties required of them.

These examinations in England established a precedent upon which the acts of Congress of 1853 and 1855 were based.

This act of Congress required that applicants, for any of the four great clerkships at Washington, had to pass certain examinations, before they were eligible for appointment. This was the first step towards "Civil Service Reform."

The reform was advanced by President Grant during his administration. He was aided by a clause in the "appropriation bill" enforcing a system of competitive examinations in the departments at Washington. President Grant then appointed a commission called the Civil Service Commission. The duties of this commission were to take charge of these examinations. They were rapidly suppressing the evils of the spoils system and party patronage. But they eventually met the disapproval of Congress which refused any appropriation for their maintenance. As a consequence of this move on the part of Congress, which was severely criticized by a large class of people, competitive examinations were suspended. The pass-examinations were renewed.

Competitive examinations were, however, established by President Hayes at the post office and custom-house at New York City.

On January 16, 1883 Congress in view of this reform sentiment passed the civil service act.

This act provides for the suppression of political assessments and the establishment of a general system of competitive examinations.

The part of the public service coming under this civil service act is designated as classified civil service, and is controlled by certain rules promulgated by the Civil Service Commission. As a result of this the offices were filled by the persons who stood the highest in competitive examinations and are necessarily men who are most competent to hold the office.

It is maintained by the civil service reformers that a person should not be selected to hold an office because of any party affiliations, but because of his profi-

ciency in civil matters. Therefore, according to the civil service reform the applicants for a vast majority of offices should be selected on account of personal fitness, irrespective of partisan politics.

Nevertheless there are exceptions to this idea of appointment by written or oral examinations, namely a president, a mayor or a governor is elected by the people and is supposed to represent certain principles under which he was elected and it is deemed necessary that the chief officials who immediately surround him should be of the same party and assenting to the same principles. For instance, the president's cabinet should be composed of the same party electing him.

Another important idea put forth by the present reform movement, is that a man should hold office during good behavior and a proof of proficiency, for it is contended that time and experience increases the skill and therefore the usefulness of the office holder.

It seems quite reasonable to expect that a man in office knowing that he is there only so long as his party is in power, would not have the same interest in it as he would knowing that his remaining in office depends entirely upon his proficiency.

The frequent revolutions of the public sentiment during the last two decades do not permit any one party to remain in power for any considerable length of time, and the frequent changing of the vast army of 150,000 office holders, must necessarily prove detrimental to good government for which the people of the country are clamoring, and promote the practice of favoritism in its vilest forms.

Especially is this fact of being detrimen-

tal to good government true when the offices are filled by men without any test whatever of personal fitness.

When the civil service reform comes to stay it will enervate the young manhood of the country to strive for office not as a means of procuring a livelihood but to look upon it as a process of education. Knowing that the likelihood of his procuring the same will depend entirely upon his knowledge of the matters pertaining to the office which he is seeking and he will naturally strive to acquaint himself with civil matters.

As a consequence of this the offices will be filled by men who have studied the topics in order to pass the required examinations, and are therefore better fitted for the public service.

When the public offices of the country are filled by men who are proficient having a high regard for honor, who will endeavor to promote the welfare of his country, who will advance ideas and promulgate rules for the public good alone, and always having in mind the national reputation, when this does occur we will have good government. Which we cannot have so long as this political strife is carried on, and parties striving for office for the amount they can get out of it and not for the good they can do the country.

I will conclude by saying that civil service reformers never had better reasons for hope of success than at the present time. The last election will possibly materially advance the cause of reform.

H. C. JONES '95'

Association News.

The candidates for the Maryland Agricultural College baseball team have been going through gymnasium work for the past week, and the prospects are bright for an excellent team this season. All of last years players are back in the fold, and with the many candidates to choose from, it is a prosperous outlook. Fuller, who did such effective pitching for the team last season, will again don the maroon and pearl this spring. Other candidates for pitchers are Burke, Robb and Crapster. Behind the bat will be Harding, who caught for the team year before last, but last year was stationed on first base. For these reasons the team will be much stronger, for with weak batteries the team is much handicapped.

Capt. Harris is not claiming anything but will have his men in excellent form when the season opens. The candidates for positions are Harding, catcher; Fuller, Burke, Robb, and Crapster, pitchers; Wooters and Lewis, first base; Barrows, Roberts. and Mellison, second base; Walker, Howard, and Lillibridge, third base; Harris, shortstop; Fuller, Strictler, Duffy, Compton, and Harrison, outfield.

It will be remembered that the team held the inter-collegiate championship of the State last year, and in spite of the cold weather, the boys are training hard in the the gymnasium to make a strong fight to hold the honor for the season of 1895. Manager Harris has his schedule almost completed, and will have games with the strongest college teams he can secure. He is also in correspondence with teams in Virginia, so a brief trip through that State is among the probabilities.



B. COMPTON, JR.

George's cousin is certainly a very charming person, Oh yes!

* *

We are pleased to note the return to College of Messrs. Walsh and Watkins who have been at their respective homes sick for the past three weeks.

* *

We are a little surprised at the lack of support which the Review receives from the student body. Boys you should do better.

* *

The race between Eddie Matt and little Turner is very close, we have no doubt but what the home stretch will be very exciting.

* *

Mully don't eat onions. Remember how that fixed our choir.

* *

Garie crimped his hair so tight on the night of the dance that he was not able to get his teeth together for two days.

* *

Our readers could not do better than to patronize our advertisers, they are reliable

first class business houses, we advertise no others.

* *

Once a Freshman was wrecked on an African coast,

Where a cannibal monarch held sway,
And they served up that Freshman in slices on toast,

On the eve of that very same day.

But the vengeance of heaven followed swift on the act,

And before the next morning was seen.
By the cholera morbus that tribe was attacked
For that Freshman was terribly green.

* *

The following is the Senior Roll.

Irish
Billy
Guy
Stud
Stued
Harvey
Pap
Roly
Squire
Mick
Mack
Mully
Sal
Eddie
Jakie
Tangle.

* *

We are pleased to note the action of the Junior class in regard to "Cribbing" on examinations. It is a step in the right direction. Let the good work go on.

Tommy and the little Miss D. look so cute together.

* *
*

"Roly" beware! Washington is a bad place for tender hearts.

* *
* *

"Pap" has made his debut. He is learning the two-step and he actually had a girl cornered the night of the dance.

* *
* *

If there is anything in the world that will make a man swear and prance, it's to have a man go up to your best girl and take her off when he knows its your dance.

* *
* *

No wonder "Moses" wears such a smiling face now, for nevermore will he have to take those long walks on cold nights kicking the heels off his shoes on the crossties and falling through the trestle.

* *
* *

When you have a "swimming in your head" it is reasonable to suppose that you have water on the brain. One of the waiters here was effected that way, he went out and it was so cold that the water froze and in freezing of course expanded and blew the top of his head off.

* *
* *

There was a sound of revelry by night; all were merry as a marriage bell as the cadets and their friends glided over the glassy floor to the soft strains of Signor Verrallo's Orchestra on Friday the 15th.

Any one wishing any of the beautiful flags, ferns etc. (mentioned by some of the Washington papers in their account of the last dance) may obtain them by applying at the office, No 49 Madison Ave.

* *
* *

A number of the students expect to attend a dance given by the R. and H. Social Club, at the Calvert Mansion in Riverdale.

* *
* *

Judging from the number of packs of cards they have taken from the students lately we suppose the Faculty is about to organize a duplicate whist club.

* *
* *

Owing to the deep snow, crows are plentiful about the College premises, and as "Lon" has just returned we have no doubt but what he will go into the business immediately.

* *
* *

Don't call him Nick, call him "Brown-eyes."

* *
* *

It is strange that "Redy" gets sick every time he sees a certain person; he must have a rival.

* *
* *

Owing to a break down in the machinery at the artesian well, the College has been supplied with water from the Experiment Station.

This is the fifth hop of a series given by the Rossburg Club. "The bright dresses of the ladies, the gray uniforms and brass buttons of the cadets, made a pleasing scene in the mellow light." Supper was served at 10.30 p. m after which the dancing was continued till 12. R. C. S.

*
* *

Cadet—Miss M.—May have the pleasure of the next dance.

Miss M—"Excuse me Mr. but I haven't the pleasure of your acquaintance."

Cadet—"Well you don't run any more risk than I do."

*
* *

Since the freshman examinations, the society for the prevention of cruelty to Dumb Animals, has been after the Captain.

*
* *

From all appearances Major Jones must be in love.

*
* *

A past and a present sophomore a future Pref.

*
* *

Subscribe for the "Review."

*
* *

The humorous columns of a paper are only successful where the editor has some old reliable joke like the Reckeweg bun "of

the High School Review." As we have none we have abandoned that column.

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Literary Department.

H. R. GRAHAM, '95.

Degeneracy of the Human Race.

A Fragment.

“**W**HAT a piece of work is a man!
How noble in reason! How
infinite in faculty! In form
and moving, how express and admirable!
In action, how like an angel! In apprehension,
how like a God! The beauty of the world!
The paragon of animals!”

What is to be the fate of this “quintessence of dust?”

The march of the the human race has been onward and upward, a progress to a higher type of man with an according civilization.

Pessimists array a formidable host of nations of the earth who have flourished but to decay, as evidence of the fate which awaits mankind. But their history affords proof of man's capacity to develop to a high grade of intelligence, and to give to the world a philosophy or code of morals recognized in our age as a guide of conduct. Grand empires required architects to build them; their ruins bear witness to genius and intellectual faculties of the highest order.

The seeds of Israel were so marvellous that the idea grew that they were the chosen people of God. Their fall and dis-

persion were due to other causes than intellectual degeneracy, for the Jews of to-day, exhibit their remarkable talents as of yore. Alike great in the synagogue, at the bar in the Forum, they are the leading financiers and merchants of the earth.

Greece stands pre-eminent for men of genius. We are at a loss whether more to admire the genius of the Greeks who devised the theories of science or the moderns who demonstrated their truth. Let us reflect that the remote progenitors of such men as Pythagoras, Socrates, Plato, Aristotle were brutal savages whose only aim was to satisfy hunger and then find, not construct, a den wherein to sleep.

Such savages are now found in parts of Asia, Africa, Australia, Islands of the Pacific—in America—nay, in the slums of the same cities, near neighbors to the rich, the great, the benevolent whom we exped to advance our race and to spread religion illumined by science; to lift their degraded brothers from the slough in which ignorance and vice have sunk them. What they need is Light—more light. Cannot these masses be illumined? The lowly sand which we trample beneath our feet, if we put it into the furnace and let it melt and seeth will become resplendent crystal, and with such as this a Gallileo or a Newton shall discover stars.”

What a grand empire did the men of Rome build. Through hundreds of years her history is adroned by patriots, sages, statesmen, warriors, poets, historians, she diffused civilization throughout the world, carrying by her victorious legions the arts and sciences to lift the degraded barbarians up to see at least the dawn of better things, to see from afar the promised land.

Development consists in unfolding the characters of the organism, which is effected by the forces of nature to which it is subjected. Man's capacity to develop is unlimited, it depends upon his environment. Here we have the reason of the decline and fall of nations from the most ancient periods down the roll of time, as well as for their rise to the greatest height of wealth and splendor.

The conditions of life are ever changing. Men of to-day have powers, resources, agencies which were not possessed by those of old; we control forces of which they were ignorant, we can live and flourish where they would perish.

When the earth ceased to yield, by their modes of culture, enough to eat, they died. They knew not how to restore fertility to exhausted soils, while we can do this wonderful work. We procure fertility from the atmosphere. We bring it from distant parts of the world, from Peru, Chili, Africa, Germany, we dig the phosphate rock where it lies buried for thousands of years. We can grind up the rocks on our soils to renew fertility. We can live and flourish where they would pine and die. They were alone consumers, we produce and multiply the fruits the earth. We command the winds and the waves to serve us, the earth, air, fire and water, we chain the lightning to our car.

The environment produces in men of our age a corresponding effect. An advance in intelligence is a necessarily consequence of these discoveries of science and their application to the art for the comfort and convenience of man.

Is the process of evolution of man a principle which we term "*the right*," has

arisen, in distinction to "*the wrong*." It is recognized that we ought to do a thing because it is *right*, because it is *wrong not* to do it. In the future the combat will be between the principle of good and that of evil. Upon the result will depend the evolution of man to a higher type—*vir totus teres atque rotundus*."

The history of the earth is a story of its evolution.

Philosophy reaches back to the time when the matter of our system and by inference all matter was in a gaseous form. Under the operation of forces set to work by the Almighty Architect the earth reached its present state, but not to stop. Change is the law. These demand corresponding changes in the Fauna and Flora, of man himself. Those that cannot undergo the requisite modifications perish. The fittest survive.

A species once lost can never be restored: Egypt, Greece. Rome can never be restored to their ancient civilizations. The conditions of former grandeur can never again arise. Affairs may be so ordered as to give to the East a noble civilization, but never the same in kind as of yore.

Venice is an object lesson. A dragoon town! A place of refuge. Her history relates to what height of grandeur men can reach under favorable conditions.

When commerce sought other avenues, it required neither sage nor philosopher to predict her downfall. It was hoped that the Suez Canal would restore prosperity to the Mediterranean shores; it did in some degree. It is a truism very neatly expressed, that westward the star of empire holds its way, because of the discovery of

another hemisphere of the globe of America with her grand environment.

Monuments in architecture, sculpture and painting attest the genius of man during the middle ages.

Gallileo, Capernicus, Leonardo di vinci, Michael Angelo lived in those dark times.

Europe lifted herself from the slough in which tyranny and superstition had plunged her, and with Luther as the prophet proclaimed freedom of thought and opinion, the forces had, for long, worked up to the explosive point. Science asserted pre-eminence and Europe exhibits to-day a higher type of man and a grander civilization than the world ever before presented. We are moving on to a higher plane in spite of the folies of man, his wickedness and brutality. Man's inhumanity to man has been the retarding force in the past, and is the great obstacle in the present. At the same time the principle of *good* is acknowledged, and in the progress of evolution must become the rule of conduct. The modifications which animals undergo by the action of forces is illustrated by the natural history of the horse. The genus *Egnus* is represented as far back as the Miocene epoch by a three-toed stock, whose ancestor must have been one with five toes.

Palaeontology, Geology and the present distribution of terrestrial animals shows the wonderful relationship between the facena of by-gone ages and those of the present time, as likewise the modifications affected by changing conditions.

That geographical changes of the earth have determined a corresponding distribution of animals, it may be mentioned that in the Miocene epoch "North America possessed elephants, horses, rhinoceres, a

number and variety of ruminants and pigs which are absent in the present indiginous Fauna."

"Europe had its Apes, Elephants, Rhinoceroses, Tapers, Muskdeer, Giraffes, Hyenas Giant Cats, Edentata and Opossum—like Marsupials which have equally vanished from its present fauna, but are represented in India and South Africa."

This can only be accounted for by the vast alterations which the earth has undergone in its physical geography.

Another fact is important, viz.: That organisms, which from generation to generation have through long series of time been subjected to the same conditions, become hardened in their traits, so that even when removed to other surroundings do not undergo changes, but transmit their characteristics truly to their offspring. Yet another fact—That no modifications are brought about in types, very slowly and gradually.

The facts mentioned in regard to lower orders of animals apply to man. Africa has made the negro races; Asia, Australia, Europe, America, islands of the sea, afford peculiar types of mankind.

Hence the Ethnology of the European stock is an important element or factor in the evolution of man to a high type.

That the Aryan races are superior to all others is an acknowledged fact; that they have "originated everything that is highest in science, in art, in law, in politics and in mechanical invention" is evidence of their great superiority.

But that the superiority may be held and advance to a higher plane be made, the stock must be preserved untainted by mixture with inferior races of mankind. Mice-

genation with the negro or with Mongolians will as certainly produce a mongrel of low grade as the cur dog is the result of mixture of the inferior breeds of the canidae.

It is not pretended that man can advance without very great effort, but that as knowledge progresses he will so order himself as to take the means to reach a higher type. He is beset with dangers on every side.

The British Isles have made the Englishman, but the material came from the best Aryan stockholders, while Japan equally well endowed has produced the best that can be manufactured from the stock—contrast the two. You can't make a silk purse out of a sow's ear, as soon could you make an Englishman out of Mongolian material.

Greece owed her great men to environment acting on a branch of the Aryan tree. Mixture caused degeneration. Think you that the *old Roman stock* could have been conquered by hordes of barbarians?

America presents a difficult problem to work out. Cast your eye over North or South America where you will see a vast territory for the most part inhabited by inferior stocks of the human family or by mongrels, made by admixture of Europeans with the aborigines and negroes. Within assigned times these people can not be developed into such a stock as the Aryan—for modifications are brought about very slowly and gradually. The Aryans must destroy them or be ruined by miscegenation. The United States were settled by a fine European stock. The Government was based upon African slavery and the Aryans advanced to a high type. The scheme of government has, by the wickedness and

folly of those in authority proved a failure. The war for the *forcible* liberation of the slaves of the Southern people was not only a crime but a blunder. Emancipation would have come in due time, and that time not a long time. It has put back the evolution of man in this country to a higher grade. The people of the North and West are never tired of exulting over the conquest of their fellow citizens. Most nations try to hide from the world their civil strifes and to heal the consequent wounds—but the victors while exalting their Republican form of government forgot that the sword is the "*ultima ratio regum*."

The people of the North dislike the people of the South—the people of the South do not love their conquerors. There is a growing jealousy on the part of the west to the east.

Then the negro problem is an ugly one. *Laissez Fairi* will not act.

The United States must undergo a fearful ordeal. Socialists, Communists, Anarchists, Nihilists, have been transplanted from Europe, class stands arrayed against class. The Poor, against the rich who are styled Plucocrats.

Labor organizations exist throughout the land. They are connected with similar institutions of Europe. It only remains to so dispose the forces that they may be directed by a central power. On the other hand a kind of military fever pervades the country. Military schools cover the land, voluntary military organizations, the National Guard, stand ready to obey the powers that be. The very air is tainted with signs of storm and commotion.

The Federal Government has evolved

into a Nation ! States rights are things of the past.

Yet, America possesses great possibilities ; nature has given everything necessary to the evolution of man to the highest type of which he is capable. The inventions of the age have placed everything within his reach.

His intellectual development must grow upon what it feeds upon.

The same line of statement applies to man as a moral being.

A higher type of morality and religion has been reached.

A higher type of man and a grander civilization is within our reach.

Will the Americans of the United States take the upward path, or will they, like the other nations of America, degenerate into a mongrel race ?

MARTIN P. SCOTT.

It was reported the other day that the Professors were going to skate on the ice pond after the Faculty meeting, so some of the fellows attempted to make it more exerting for them by adding to the number of air-holes, but they either changed their minds or the report was false for none of them wore their Sunday trousers the next morning.

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Exchange Department

W. B. CRAPSTER, '95.

Education has transformed chaos into order, confusion into symmetry. It has thrown its beacon light across the horizon of thought, and the people of all ages and all nations have looked upon and been made wise. It has lifted mankind from the depths of barbarism, vice, ignorance and superstition and placed him upon a plane but a little lower than the angels of heaven. It arouses the ambition of youth, plants within his bosom the sparks of enthusiasm, and invites him to higher and loftier, grander and purer aspirations.

Shakespeare has wisely said that "the world is one vast play-house, and that men and women are the players." Do you wish to perform your part well in the great drama of life and be prepared to meet its trials, struggles and conflicts? If so, you must drink deep at the Pilrian springs. Look around you and you will see that those who occupy the highest positions in the land are educated men almost without an exception. You have seen men of great natural ability, who, on account of their limited education were forced to remain contented in some common sphere of life. —Ex.

* *

It is said that the feeling of Yale is that the rules of football must be modified or the game stopped so far as Yale is concerned.

* *

It is computed that every year the earth

receives about one hundred and forty-six billions of shooting stars, which fall on its surface, slowly adding to its mass.

* *

Mother Goose Up-to-Date.

Sing a song of touch-downs,
A pig-skin full of air,
Two-and-twenty sluggers
With long and matted hair.

When the game was opened,
The sluggers 'gan to fight,
Wasn't that, for tender maids,
An edifying sight?

* *

A French statistician says that the number of men and women in France is more nearly equal than in any other country in the world.

* *

The New York Alumni are planning a complimentary dinner to Captain Hinkey of the Yale football eleven. They wish to show their appreciation of his earnestness in developing a winning team. Nothing definite about the banquet has been decided upon.

* *

An interesting debate has been started by the inquiry what becomes of all our football heroes? Do they make their mark in the battle of life, or does their college training simply qualify them from a physical standpoint? The result shows that none of the stars of the College gridiron have set the world on fire,* though the majority of them are still young.

* *

"Rolly" says "frogs eggs turn to catterpillars."

Humorous Columns.

L. McCANDLISH.

Mich says that virus was first taken from the rudder of the cow.

* *

“My Bonnie” (as we now sing it):
 Last night as I lay on my pillow,
 Last night as I lay on my bed,
 The rain leaked down through the
 garret roof,
 And the plaster fell down on my head.

* *

The Prof. of Physics says he can supply the Seniors with all the rubber corks they want.

* *

At least a few of our fellows can claim that they are no longer “tin soldiers,” for from all accounts they smelt about as much

powder as they cared to on Saturday last. The firing was sufficient to bring several “Black clouds,” but not enough to bring rain.

* *

“How can I bear to leaf (leave) thee,” sang the opening buds to the tree.

* *

The comfort of having gas through the building is at present greatly diminished by the necessity for listening to the standing joke about “the man who blew the gas out.” If there ever was such a person the funny papers certainly owe his widow a pension.

* *

Some one says he wishes he were like “Yates,” for if he is ever so unfortunate as to go to the “regions below,” he will be too green to burn.

* *

Ghost dances are becoming very popular in school.

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